1st April 1953]

(2) THE COTTON GINNING AND PRESSING FACTORIES (MADRAS AMENDMENT) BILL, 1953.

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, I beg to introduce the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories (Madras Amendment) Bill [a], 1953, and move— 5 p.m.

'*That the Bill be taken into consideration at once.*'

This Bill provides for the inclusion of 'cotton waste' in the definition of 'cotton' in the principal Act. Up till now it was not obligatory on the owner of a cotton pressing factory, who presses cotton waste, to maintain a register in respect of cotton waste pressed in his factory; nor was he liable to submit under section 5 (1) a weekly return in respect of cotton waste. On careful consideration it was found that it would be feasible to include 'cotton waste' in the definition of 'bale' and 'cotton pressing factory' so that the owner of a cotton pressing factory will be under an obligation to include in the register and in the return particulars in respect of cotton waste. Clauses 2 and 6 of the Bill make the necessary provision for the purpose. This became necessary because it was found that cotton was found mixed with different varieties of cotton or water or any foreign substance, cotton leaf or cotton seed. Section 3-D, as it now stands, gives room for the deliberate watering and mixing of cotton up to the limit allowed. According to new section 3-D, cotton is deemed to be watered only if it contains moisture in excess of the normal quantity, and cotton is deemed to be mixed with cotton leaf or cotton seed only if it contains the leaf or seed in excess of the prescribed quantity. I appeal to the House to pass this Bill as it removes the possibility of any owner of cotton pressing factory mixing different varieties of cotton or watering any ginned cotton, or mixing with ginned cotton any foreign substance, cotton leaf or cotton seed."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Motion moved—

'That the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1953, be taken into consideration at once.' "

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" Sir, I move—

'*That the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1953, be referred to a Select Committee.*' "

The amendment was duly seconded.

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" I beg leave to withdraw my amendment."

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

'That the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1953, be taken into consideration at once.' "

The motion was carried.

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 11th February 1953.

*Clause* 2.

SRI S. VEMIAH :—" Sir, I move—

' Delete *the words " cotton waste " wherever they occur.*' ".

The amendment was duly seconded.

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The purpose of the Bill is to include cotton waste! I submit this amendment is out of order."

SRI S. VEMIAH :—" I beg leave to withdraw my amendment."

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Clauses 2 to 9 and clause 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, I move—

' *That the Bill be passed into law.*' "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Motion moved—

' That the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1953, be passed into law.' "

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I was going through this Bill, a remark of Sir Gangaram, who was a member of the Agricultural Commission, struck my mind. There was a propaganda to the effect that our farmers generally mixed a good lot of dirt and stones with the raw materials that they supplied. Sir Gangaram used to say that this was propagated by foreign imperialists to see that Indian wheat commanded a very small price in the world market. This Bill contains a provision which implies that Indian peasantry mixes with cotton a good amount of cotton waste, cotton leaf or cotton seed, dirt and all that. It may be that under the conditions obtaining in India, where agriculture is almost a handicraft and where we do not have power-driven machinery, a good amount of dirt is unavoidable. The implication that the peasants deliberately mix cotton with inferior stuff is there underlying this Bill. I should like to know from the Hon. Minister for Industries whether, by the provisions of this Bill, the Government are simply dittoing the kind of propaganda by foreign imperialists that I referred to in the beginning of this speech."

* THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I have no such doubt in my mind. According to the Act as it stands at present cotton waste in the ginning and pressing factories is not accounted for. There may be a possibility of cotton being mixed with cotton seed, cotton leaf or other foreign matter. I am not blaming anybody. Wherever a factory has got cotton waste, a register has got to be maintained to show the quantity and how it has been used, so as to check adulteration. That is all the purpose of this Bill. I wish to remove any suspicion that may be lurking in the mind of the hon. Member."

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MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is—

'That the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1953, be passed into law.' "

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(3) THE LAND ACQUISITION (MADRAS AMENDMENT) BILL, 1953.

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I introduce the Land Acquisition (Madras Amendment) Bill[a], 1953 and move—

'*That the Bill be taken into consideration at once.*'

This is a very simple amending Bill which aims at reducing the rate of interest from 6 per cent to 4 per cent. This change is made because the bank rate has now fallen, and one or two other State Governments have adopted the 4 per cent rate. For instance, the Punjab Government have adopted this 4 per cent rate."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Motion moved—

'That the Land Acquisition (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1953, be taken into consideration at once.' "

* SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH :—" Sir, I move—

'*That the Land Acquisition (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1953, be referred to a Select Committee.*'

There are a large number of cases where compensation amounts have been paid after immense delay and the rates of compensation were very low. So the peasants were forced to go to courts, but being poor they are unable to go to courts. In this condition, it is very advisable to increase the rate of interest instead of reducing it. The Hon. Minister for Revenue said that because some other States reduced the rate to 4 per cent, the Madras State also should do likewise. It is not advisable. It will only help the Collectors 5-10 p.m. to indulge in more delays in making payment of compensation. If the rate is increased, the Collector will be more *alert* in disposing of cases. Therefore, this Bill has got to be considered in all its aspects. I say, therefore, that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister said when he moved the Bill that it was a very simple Bill. The Government want the consent of the House to reduce the rate of interest from 6 to 4 per cent. He has not said why he wants to reduce the rate of interest from 6 to 4 per cent. He said that in conformity with some other State, he wanted to reduce the rate of interest. If the Bill is referred to a Select Committee, we can go into the question whether we have to reduce the rate or whether we have to increase the rate. I, therefore, request the House to accept the amendment."

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 4th March 1953.